



PROGRESS REPORT NO. 96

TO: Dr. Laura Buelow – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email
Matt Wilkening – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email

FROM: Kris McCaig – Teck American Incorporated (TAI)

DATE: July 10, 2014

FILE NO: 01-773180-000

RE: Upper Columbia River (UCR) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
(RI/FS) - Progress Report No. 96 Month Ending June 2014

Pursuant to Paragraph 39 of the June 2, 2006 Settlement Agreement (Agreement), the following is intended to provide a summary of activities completed during the past month in compliance with the aforementioned Agreement. It is also intended to provide a brief summary of pending and on-going activities.

Phase 2 Sediment Study - Field sampling activities commenced at the beginning of September and were completed on October 24, 2013. Field sediment and porewater chemistry analysis is complete and validated data were submitted to EPA for quality assurance review. EPA provided review comments to TAI on February 26, 2014 and TAI responded with a memo addressing EPA's comments on March 3, 2014.

Short-term bioassay tests (i.e., 10-day *Chironomus dilutes* and 28-day *Hyalella azteca*) were completed for all batches on April 24, 2014. Bioassay test data and analytical chemistry data for porewater and sediment samples collected during the short term bioassay tests have been loaded into the project database.

As required by the quality assurance project plan (QAPP), TAI submitted a technical memorandum, using preliminary biology and chemistry data from short term bioassay tests to propose 18 sediment samples for long term bioassay testing, to EPA on June 30, 2014. A web meeting was held with EPA on July 1, 2014 to review the memorandum and answer any initial questions.

TAI submitted a proposal to conduct backscatter electron microscopy (BSEM) on archived sediments on February 25, 2014 and followed up in March with supporting information requested by EPA. At the time of writing, EPA provided a memorandum to TAI on June 4, 2014 requesting that 4 new samples be included in addition to those proposed by TAI; TAI will respond with a technical memorandum describing how the BSEM will be performed by July 31, 2014.

Bossburg Flat Beach Refined Sediment and Soil Study - TAI submitted the draft final QAPP and response to EPA's comments to EPA on April 30, 2014. TAI technical team members met with EPA and the cultural resources working group on April 3, 2014 to review sampling decisions units and sample locations for the Bossburg Study to clear or move sample locations based on cultural sensitivities. Results from the meeting were incorporated into the draft final QAPP.

Soil Study - TAI received EPA's May 23, 2014 letter providing conditional approval (with requested modifications) of the April 2014 Draft Final Soil Study QAPP; TAI submitted a revised version of the Draft Final QAPP on June 19, 2014.

Human Health - TAI received from EPA, the draft data analysis report (DAR) for the Recreational Use Survey on January 17, 2014 and submitted comments on the Recreational Use Survey DAR on June 11, 2014. TAI is in receipt of EPA's June 20, 2014 draft final Tribal Survey DAR and response to TAI's February 13, 2014 comments and will review and provide comments to EPA by July 18, 2014.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 509-623-4501.